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East Central Warrior Football Finishes Season Ranked No. 10 in Nation **(<http://www.eccc.edu/news-stories/east-central-warrior-football-finishes-season-ranked-no-10-in-nation>)**

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The East Central Community College Warrior football team celebrates its 2015 C.H.A.M.P.S. Heart of Texas Bowl victory Dec. 5. (EC Photo)

Following its victory in the C.H.A.M.P.S. Heart of Texas Bowl, the East Central Community College Warrior football team is ranked No. 10 in the final National Junior College Athletic Association Top 20 Football Poll for the 2015 season.

East Central capped off its best season in 16 years with a 35-21 win over No. 20 Kilgore College in the HOT Bowl Saturday, Dec. 5, in Copperas Cove, Texas. East Central entered the game ranked No. 15.

The Warriors finished the 2015 season with an 8-3 record, the best won-loss record since 1999. All three of the losses came to teams ranked in the top 10 in the final 2015 NJCAA Top 20 Poll.

"I am very excited for our players, staff and football program in being selected in the top 10 to finish the season," said third-year Head Coach Ken Karcher. "This is an honor for our college, our fans, and our community."

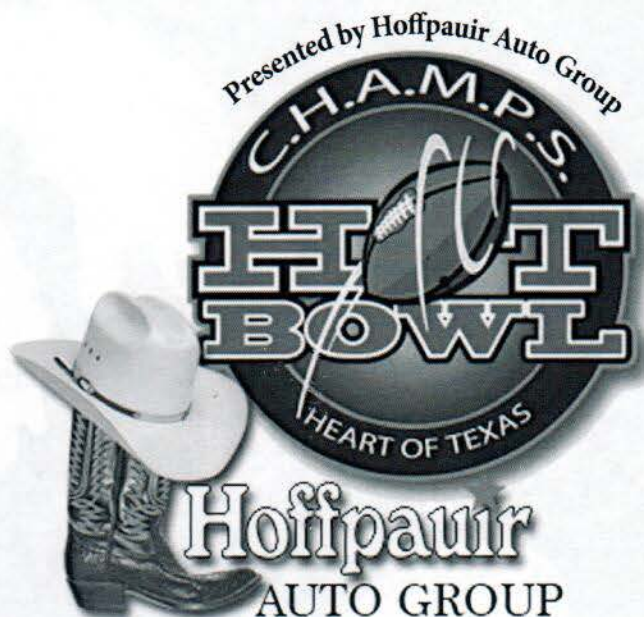
It was a year of firsts for the East Central Community College football team. The HOT Bowl was East Central's first bowl game since 1996, and only the fourth bowl game since the Warriors began playing football in 1928. Only 14 community college football teams in the nation were invited to bowl games this year.

The Warriors advanced to the semifinals of the 2015 Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges state playoffs, before losing to eventual state and national champion Northwest Mississippi Community College 27-20 on Oct. 31 in Senatobia. It was the Warriors first appearance in the state playoffs since 2001.

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**WELCOME TO THE 2015 C.H.A.M.P.S.
HEART OF TEXAS BOWL**



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**KILGORE COLLEGE RANGERS VS.
EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WARRIORS**

&

**EASTERN NEW MEXICO GREYHOUNDS VS.
ARKANSAS TECH WONDERBOYS**

DECEMBER 5, 2015 • BULLDAWG STADIUM



Copperas Cove
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TODAY'S GAME RANGERS VS. WARRIORS

By Joe Lombardi Bowl Announcer

College football returns to Copperas Cove!

Welcome to Bulldawg Stadium for the 15th Annual C.H.A.M.P.S. Heart of Texas Bowl, featuring two great matchups, involving four stellar squads from across the college football spectrum. You'll see showcases of players at the community college level and from NCAA Division II.

In our first contest, the National Junior College Athletic Association takes center stage with the Kilgore College Rangers of Kilgore, Tex. taking on Decatur, Miss.-based East Central Community College's Warriors.

Ken Karcher is the third-year East Central head coach and brings his 15th-ranked Warriors to the game with a 7-3 record, forged in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges. The Warriors faced Northwest Mississippi Community College Oct. 31 in a state playoff game and came up short 27-20, setting the stage for this, their first bowl game in 19 years and third since the school started playing football in 1928.

Offensively, East Central runs a multiple set with one back, often in the pistol formation. Sophomore Jesse Hosket operates the offense. He's thrown for 1,600 yards with 17 touchdowns and has been picked once. Tre' Gamble is the team's top ground gainer with 957 yards and seven scores, while Kabian Ento's 35 catches

for 563 yards and seven touchdowns leads the Warrior receivers. All told, East Central averaged 361.4 yards per game.

On defense, Coach Karcher bases out of a 4-2-5 alignment, but has been known to show a pro-style 4-3. Eric McPherson was East Central's top stopper with 87 total tackles, with Jadarius Caesar the team's sackmaster with nine. In pass coverage, Austin Balthazar came up with four picks. The Warrior defense allowed 292.6 yards per outing.

"They're a great football team," said Kilgore head coach J.J. Eckert of East Central. "Their offense, defense, special teams...all are very well coached coming from a tough conference. Our preparation is crucial and we've got to block and tackle well. That's what it comes down to, along with execution."

Eckert's Kilgore College Rangers are 7-4 overall, with a 3-3 mark in the Southwest Junior College Football Conference. The 20th-ranked Rangers topped Navarro College 42-28 in the conference championship game Nov. 7 in Corsicana.

This is Kilgore's third appearance in the Heart of Texas Bowl. The Rangers beat Ft. Scott (Kan.) Community College 19-7 in 2006, then, a year later, dropped a 62-28 matchup with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Kilgore also runs a multiple offense and will be in the spread often. Quarterback Cameron

Martin threw for 1,043 yards in 2015, completing 98 of 168 attempts with seven touchdowns, while being intercepted five times. His top target was Garrett Barton, who hauled in 35 receptions, good for 383 yards and two scores. On the ground, Marty Syria rushed 166 times for 755 yards and scored 10 touchdowns.

Like East Central, Kilgore fields a 4-2-5 defense. Linebacker Donte Lovilotte led the way with 95 tackles. Ricci Simmons had 10 quarterback sacks, while Jerrell Sykes picked off opposing quarterbacks 10 times.

Looking at Kilgore's totals, it's almost a wash between yards gained per game (332.9) and yards allowed (332.5) per game.

"Kilgore is obviously a good football team," East Central Head Coach Karcher said. "We can't turn the ball over and must do the same things on either side of the ball we do every week."

"We know they're good and we're glad to have a chance to play them."

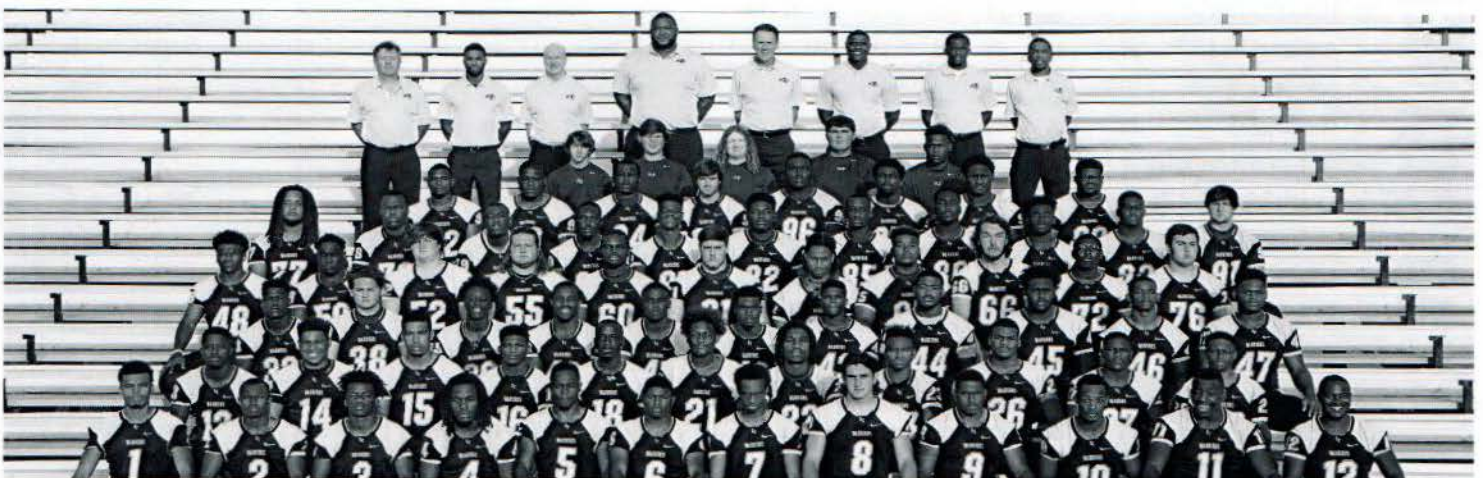
Once again, thank you from the C.H.A.M.P.S. Heart of Texas Bowl for coming out to watch this game that's As Big As Texas!

Now...

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?



KILGORE COLLEGE RANGERS



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WARRIORS

KILGORE COLLEGE RANGERS

NO.	PLAYER	CLASS	POS.	HT	WT	HOMETOWN
1	DEONDRE TOLER	SO	S	5'11	195	HEMPSTEAD, TX
2	DEMONTRAI LEWIS	SO	DL	6'3	245	LUFKIN, TX
3	TRAVAUGH CALAHAN	FR	CB	5'10	170	JONESBORO, LA
4	MARTINEZ SYRIA	SO	TB	6'0	215	ALDINE, TX
5	GARRETT BARTON	SO	WR	5'10	180	NEW DIANA, TX
6	DQUINTON OSBORNE	SO	DL	6'0	275	GRAND PRAIRIE, TX
7	JAYLEN FAILS	SO	WR	6'1	195	GRAND PRAIRIE, TX
9	JERRELL SYKES	SO	CB	5'10	175	COLDSPRINGS, TX
10	JAYLON JOHNSON	FR	S	6'2	170	BATON ROUGE, LA
11	JOSH BOLFIG	FR	QB	6'1	185	MONTGOMERY, TX
12	CAMERON MARTIN	FR	QB	6'1	225	DICKINSON, TX
13	MARQUICE DYE	FR	CB	5'11	185	ELBERTON, GA
14	KYLE MCBRIDE	FR	WR	5'9	170	DAYTON, TX
15	DAMION COLLINS	SO	TB	6'0	200	LIVINGSTON, TX
16	RESHOD WILLIAMS	FR	WR	5'8	180	PINELAND, TX
17	J'MARCUS RHODES	SO	CB	6'1	195	ORANGE, TX
19	CAMERON FISHER	FR	WR	6'4	215	BAY CITY, TX
20	TRISTAN THOMPSON	FR	S	5'11	185	GLADEWATER, TX
21	D'ANDRE THOMAS	FR	S	6'2	185	TENAHA, TX
22	WILL SMITH	FR	CB	5'10	165	HEMPSTEAD, TX
23	MARKELL SPRIGNER	FR	TB	6'2	220	EMORY, TX
24	TREY TINNEY	FR	LB	5'10	185	KILGORE, TX
25	LADARIUS POPE	FR	WR	5'11	180	ALTO, TX
27	DESMOND PAYTON	FR	LB	5'10	205	COLLEGE STATION, TX
29	D'ONTA ALLEN	FR	TB	6'0	215	CROSBY, TX
30	JEROME SIKES	FR	P	6'0	210	LIBERTY CITY, TX
32	TROY DURAN	FR	K/P	6'2	170	LONGVIEW, TX
33	TOMMY SIMMONS	FR	DS	6'2	200	JACKSONVILLE, TX
34	JALEN PORTER	SO	LB	5'11	235	LONGVIEW, TX
35	TYARIUS HACKETT	FR	LB	6'1	220	ALTO, TX
40	BRIAN SCOTT	FR	DE	6'3	230	NACOGDOCHES, TX
41	RICCI SIMMONS	SO	DE	6'1	235	PEARLAND, TX
43	NIGEL WILLIAMS	FR	LB	6'1	220	HUMBLE, TX
45	MARIO MCCAIN	SO	DL	5'11	235	CARTHAGE, TX
51	JONATHAN BEAUDOIN	FR	OL	6'2	255	HOUSTON, TX
55	ASHMEED AHAMAD	SO	OL	6'2	295	DEER PARK, TX
56	JARED BAILEY	SO	OL	6'3	310	ATHENS, TX
66	SKYLAR JORDAN	FR	OL	6'2	290	WORTHAM, TX
75	MATTHEW BELL	SO	OL	6'3	350	DICKINSON, TX
76	GARRETT BOWERY	FR	OL	6'2	290	GLADEWATER, TX
77	JAVON MOSLEY	FR	OL	6'7	310	FT. WORTH, TX
78	DEVIN DUDLEY	FR	OL	6'3	290	HOUSTON, TX
80	COLBY BUTZ	FR	TE	6'2	220	MISSOURI CITY, TX
81	JAROD WOOD	FR	TE	6'3	205	KILGORE, TX
82	ALEX LATHAM	FR	WR	6'6	215	CLEVELAND, TX
83	JACK ROGERS	FR	K/P	5'10	180	WHITE OAK, TX
90	BRELYND GOODS	SO	DL	6'3	245	HOUSTON, TX
92	LADARRIN ANTHONY	SO	DL	6'0	275	KILGORE, TX

NO.	PLAYER	CLASS	POS.	HT	WT	HOMETOWN
97	FREDARIAN TOMPKINS	FR	DL	6'4	255	HEMPSTEAD, TX
98	LOUIS WINGS	FR	DL	6'1	295	HARVEY, LA
99	JUSTYN JOHNSON	FR	DL	6'1	305	CYPRESS, TX

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WARRIORS

NO.	PLAYER	CLASS	POS.	HT	WT	HOMETOWN
2	HENRI MURPHY	FR	WR	5'11	170	PINE BLUFF, AR
3	TORRAN DAVIS	FR	CB	6'3	182	CHATTANOOGA, TN
5	JAYLON LOFTON	SO	DB	6'0	172	FOREST, MS
6	JUWON KEYES	FR	SS	5'10	177	MT. OLIVE, MS
7	KABION ENTO	SO	WR	6'3	175	PINE BLUFF, AR
8	JESSE HOSKET	SO	QB	6'4	210	FRENCH CAMP, MS
9	ALLEN FAILS	SO	LB	6'4	217	HATTIESBURG, MS
10	AUSTIN BALTHAZOR	SO	SS	5'11	183	COLLINS, MS
11	JORDAN THOMAS	SO	TE	6'6	278	SUMRALL, MS
12	TREY WILLIS	SO	QB	6'1	216	JACKSON, MS
13	DEVONTAE WILSON	SO	DB	5'10	179	VICKSBURG, MS
14	PAT WALKER	FR	LB	6'0	204	HATTIESBURG, MS
15	VONNIE HOWARD	SO	QB	6'3	210	JACKSON, MS
16	TORIANO HOWARD	SO	WR	5'7	162	QUITMAN, MS
18	DEVIN MCINTOSH	SO	WR	6'2	189	AMORY, MS
21	MIKELL DANIELS	FR	RB	6'2	192	FOREST, MS
22	TREDARIAN GAMBLE	FR	WR	6'1	192	LINCOLN, AL
23	NOAH NIX	FR	WR	5'8	170	COLLINSVILLE, MS
26	AUBREY BOURN	SO	LB	6'0	230	HATTIESBURG, MS
27	ISIAH THOMAS	FR	DB	6'0	193	MADISON, MS
28	DONTERRIUS POE	FR	RB	5'6	153	PHILADELPHIA, MS
33	SAVON ROBINSON	SO	RB	6'0	190	CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MS
38	ZACH CLAYCOMB	FR	K/P	6'1	239	FLOWOOD, MS
39	KEAWVIS CUMMINGS	FR	DB	6'1	156	TUPELO, MS
40	CEDRICK SNOW	FR	LB	6'0	209	NEWTON, MS
41	TISDALE SIMMS	FR	OLB	5'10	188	PASCAGOULA, MS
42	JUSTIN ROBERTSON	RF	FS	5'9	165	NOXAPATER, MS
43	DWAYNE BARNETT	FR	RB	5'7	186	GULFPORT, MS
44	BREYRON JACKSON	FR	DE	6'1	217	CANTON, MS
45	COURTNEY STAMPER	FR	DL	6'4	262	CHATTANOOGA, TN
47	ERIC MCPHERSON	SO	LB	5'11	221	JACKSON, MS
52	BRANDON HARRISON	FR	OL	6'3	276	LAKE, MS
55	MICAH PARTEN	SO	OL	6'0	295	FLOWOOD, MS
60	EDDIE HOUSTON	SO	OL	6'1	280	NEWTON, MS
61	BRETT WARREN	SO	OL	6'2	295	FLOWOOD, MS
65	JAROD BRAGGS	FR	OL	5'11	288	FOREST, MS
66	HUNTER SOILEAU	SO	OT	6'5	270	HATTIESBURG, MS
72	BRADSTON BURNSIDE	FR	OL	6'2	285	HATTIESBURG, MS
76	LUCAS ORCHARD	FR	OL	6'0	288	VANCLEAVE, MS
78	HAMES MCGEE	SO	OL	6'7	283	EDWARDS, MS
82	KALEN MEGGS	FR	TE	6'0	258	RIGHTON, MS
85	JULIUS COOK	FR	LS	5'10	184	COILA, MS
86	LUCAS MORGAN	SO	TE	6'3	239	BRANCH, MS
90	DEREK MAHAFFEY	SO	DL	6'2	292	ANNISTON, AL
91	CHASE FREEMAN	FR	DL	6'2	235	DIAMONDHEAD, MS
92	JERRY MAGEE	SO	DL	5'11	220	COLLINS, MS
93	CHARLES BRADOFROD	FR	DL	6'1	301	FOREST, MS
94	JALON SANGSTER	FR	DE	5'11	258	LOUISVILLE, MS

NO.	PLAYER	CLASS	POS.	HT	WT	HOMETOWN
95	AARON GARRETT	FR	K/P	5'10	208	MERIDIAN, MS
96	ROSHEEM COLLINS	FR	DL	6'1	315	WAYCROSS, GA
99	ZACHARY GRAVES	SO	DT	6'0	316	MAGEE, MS